



Events and Parent  
Group Meetings

Good Information

Helpful Links

> Click on events listed below  
for detailed information.

## PARENT MENTOR BULLETIN

Issue 2 – Fall 2007

### September 10 and 13, 2007

- > **Participant-Directed Services through the Home and Community-Based Services.** The Arc of Illinois and Illinois Council on Development Disabilities.

### September 12, 2007

- > **PELS Coffee – 9:30 am. 370 Chestnut, Winnetka.** Join us for our first coffee of the year. Information: 847-446-6773.

### September 18, 2007

- > **Developing a Life Plan for Individuals on the Autism Spectrum.** Presented by Sharon Rosenbloom.
- > **One Family's Journey.** Lake Forest – Lake Bluff Learning Disabilities Assoc.

### September 26, 2007

- > **Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, the Media, & the Heart:** Presented by Craigan Usher, M.D.

### October 3, 2007

- > **Building an Inclusive Environment: Parent/School Connections That Work.** NSSED Liaison Reception.

### October 16, 2007

- > **Research-Based Reading Programs.** Presented by Christine Igoe, M.S., Education Specialist.

### Beginning in October 2007

- > **AWARE: Adapted Worship and Religious Education.** Rev. Martha Ross-Mockaitis, The Winnetka Presbyterian Church.

### October through November 2007

- > **2007 Dreaming New Dreams Seminars – The New Waivers**

### November 2 – 3, 2007

- > **Making Dreams Come True: Collaborative Inclusive Education Conference**
- > **Parent and Educator Partnerships**
- > **Back-to-School Kit for Parents of Kids with LD & AD/HD: SchwabLearning.org**
- > **Yellow Pages for Kids**
- > **Northern Suburban Special Education District (NSSED)**

## Dear Fellow Parents:

Welcome to the Parent Mentor Bulletin. The purpose of this bulletin is simple: to help disseminate information among the parents and parent groups of NSSED and its member districts.

To that end – this communication will be as effective and meaningful as we all make it. It is not intended to replicate all of the excellent information we receive from other larger organizations, rather, it is meant to distill the information from various sources that is significant to all of us. And then add those pieces of information that are only interesting to us.

Please view this bulletin as a service for your parent group and feel free to email any information pertaining to upcoming meetings, fundraisers, educational sessions or points of interest that would be interesting to parents of children with special needs within our area.

### Susan Hans

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**JUST A THOUGHT** – As we all begin the process of transitioning our children back to school, to new classrooms and new teachers, I think about my daughter's summer: her progress and her regressions. And I reflect on how I will convey those thoughts as well as my general concerns to her new special ed teacher and her general ed teacher.

I am reminded of a wonderful idea from a teacher of one of my other children. At the beginning of the year, she gave parents the assignment of writing a paper on their child. The paper was to be titled, "Here Is What I'd Like You To Know About My Child In 1000 Words or Less." The communication was intended to be one-way, meaning the paper was not to be filled with open ended questions or require any type of response from the teacher. The paper had to be typewritten and they were due October 1st of that school year.

It was a great exercise for me as a parent and based on the feedback received, it was very helpful to the teacher in her classroom.

So, instead of grabbing five minutes here and there in the hallway, maybe you will find writing a similar paper a helpful start to the new school year.